

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING HANDOFFS
OF MOBILE STATION-TO-MOBILE STATION PACKET
DATA CALLS IN A WIRELESS NETWORK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wireless network capable of providing a MS-MS packet data call between a source mobile station (MS) and a destination mobile station (MS). The wireless network comprises: i) a first base station that wirelessly communicates with the source mobile station; ii) a second base station that wirelessly communicates with the destination mobile station; iii) a mobile switching center that connects the first and second base stations; and iv) a local Internet protocol (IP) network that transfers data packets associated with the MS-MS packet data call directly between the first and second base stations via a first packet data bearer connection. The first base station receives a first message from the source mobile station indicating that the source mobile station is to be handed off to a third base station. In response to the first message, the first base station initiates establishment of a second packet data bearer connection on the local IP network for transferring the data packets associated with the MS-MS packet data call directly between the second and third base stations.